

Introduction

The world we live in continues to change. For students to succeed in school, at work, and in the community, they will need more skills and knowledge than ever before. To ensure all students have every opportunity to succeed, Indiana adopted the Common Core State Standards in the area of Mathematics, as well as English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects.

Common Core State Standards Philosophy

The Common Core State Standards:

- are aligned with college and work expectations.
- include rigorous content *and* application of knowledge through higher-order skills.
- build upon strengths and lessons of current state standards.
- are internationally benchmarked.
- are evidence and/or research-based.

The Common Core State Standards will

- help prepare all students with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in college and careers.
- assist students who move between states.
- create the opportunity for America to compete for high-wage, high-skill jobs in a knowledge-based economy.
- allow for more focused pre-service education and professional development.
- create economies of scale around areas such as curriculum, instructional resources, and assessment.

Shared Responsibility for Students' Literacy Development

The Literacy Standards establish that instruction in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language is a shared responsibility. The Literacy Standards are predicated on teachers in the content areas using their unique disciplinary expertise to help students meet the particular challenges of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language in their respective fields. It is important to note that the literacy standards are meant to complement rather than supplant content standards in the disciplines.

Part of the motivation behind the disciplinary approach to literacy promulgated by the Literacy Standards is extensive research establishing the need for college- and career-ready students to be proficient in reading complex informational text independently in a variety of content areas. Most of the required reading in college and workforce training programs is informational in structure and challenging in content. Postsecondary education programs typically provide students with both a higher volume of such reading than is generally required in K-12 schools and comparatively little scaffolding.

The Literacy Standards make clear that significant reading of informational texts should also take place outside ELA classrooms in order for students to be ready for college and careers. Future assessments will apply the sum of all the reading students do in a grade, not just their

reading in the ELA context. The Literacy Standards demand that a great deal of reading should occur in all disciplines.

The Literacy Standards also cultivate the development of three mutually reinforcing writing capacities: writing to persuade, to explain, and to convey real or imagined experience. College and career readiness requires that writing focus significantly on writing to argue and to inform or explain.

The Literacy Standards are presented in grade-level bands. Students at the beginning of a grade-band continuum will require a blend of scaffolding and direct, explicit instruction. By the end of the grade-band continuum, students should demonstrate proficiency of the literacy standards independently.

The standards below begin at grade 11 and define what students should understand and be able to do by the end of grade 12. The CCR anchor standards and high school standards in literacy work in tandem to define college and career readiness expectations – the former providing broad standards, the latter providing additional specificity.

Key Ideas and Details

- 11-12.RT.1** Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of technical texts, attending to important distinctions the author makes and to any gaps or inconsistencies in the account.
- 11-12.RT.2** Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; summarize complex concepts, processes, or information presented in a text by paraphrasing them in simpler but still accurate terms.
- 11-12.RT.3** Follow precisely a complex multistep procedure when performing technical tasks; analyze the specific results based on explanations in the text.

Craft and Structure

- 11-12.RT.4** Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific context relevant to *grades 11-12 texts and topics*.
- 11-12.RT.5** Analyze how the text structures information or ideas into categories or hierarchies, demonstrating understanding of the information or ideas.
- 11-12.RT.6** Analyze the author's purpose in providing an explanation, describing a procedure, or discussing an experiment in a text, identifying important issues that remain unresolved.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

- 11-12.RT.7** Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., quantitative data, video, multimedia) in order to address a question or solve a problem.
- 11-12.RT.8** Evaluate the hypotheses, data, analysis, and conclusions in a technical subject, verifying the data when possible and corroborating or challenging conclusions with other sources of information.
- 11-12.RT.9** Synthesize information from a range of sources (e.g., texts, experiments, simulations) into a coherent understanding of a process, phenomenon, or concept, resolving conflicting information when possible.

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

11-12.RT.10 By the end of grade 12, read and comprehend technical texts texts in the grades 11-CCR text complexity band independently and proficiently.

The standards below begin at grade 11 and define what students should understand and be able to do by the end of grade 12. The CCR anchor standards and high school standards in literacy work in tandem to define college and career readiness expectations – the former providing broad standards, the latter providing additional specificity.

Text Types and Purposes

11-12.WT.1 Write arguments focused on *discipline-specific content*.

- a. Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that logically sequences the claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
- b. Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant data and evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both claim(s) and counterclaims in a discipline-appropriate form that anticipates the audience’s knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
- c. Use words, phrases, and clauses as well as varied syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.
- d. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
- e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from or supports the argument presented.

11-12.WT.2 Write informative/explanatory texts, including technical processes.

- a. Introduce a topic and organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- b. Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience’s knowledge of the topic.
- c. Use varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.
- d. Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic; convey a knowledgeable stance in a style that responds to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely readers.

e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation provided (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).

11-12.WT.3 *Note: Students' narrative skills continue to grow in these grades. The Standards require that students be able to incorporate narrative elements effectively into arguments and informative/explanatory texts. In technical subjects, students must be able to write precise enough descriptions of the step-by-step procedures they use in their technical work that others can replicate them and (possibly) reach the same results.*

Production and Distribution of Writing

11-12.WT.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

11-12.WT.5 Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

11-12.WT.6 Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

11-12.WT.7 Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

11-12.WT.8 Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the specific task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation.

11-12.WT.9 Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Range of Writing

11-12.WT.10 Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading

The grades 11-12 standards on the following pages define what students should understand and be able to do by the end of grade 12. They correspond to the College and Career Readiness (CCR) anchor standards below by number. The CCR and grade-specific standards are necessary complements – the former providing broad standards, the latter providing additional specificity – that together define the skills and understandings that all students must demonstrate.

Key Ideas and Details

1. Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
2. Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
3. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

Craft and Structure

4. Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.
5. Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.
6. Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

7. Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse formats and media, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.*
8. Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.
9. Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

10. Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.

*Please see “Research to Build and Present Knowledge” in Writing and “Comprehension and Collaboration” in Speaking and Listening for additional standards relevant to gathering, assessing, and applying information from print and digital sources.

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Writing

The grades 11-12 standards on the following pages define what students should understand and be able to do by the end of grade 12. They correspond to the College and Career Readiness (CCR) anchor standards below by number. The CCR and grade-specific standards are necessary complements – the former providing broad standards, the latter providing additional specificity – that together define the skills and understandings that all students must demonstrate.

Text Types and Purposes

1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

Production and Distribution of Writing

4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
8. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.
9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Range of Writing

10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.